

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

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VERBATIM TEXT

SENT TO: Amembassy PARIS

TOPOL

PRIORITY

RPTD INFO: Amembassy BONN

179

1958 JUL 21 PM 5 56

113666

Origin

Info

Deliver Wolf 9 a.m. July 22

Deptel 166 to Bonn Rptd TOPOL 311

7626.5411

You may inform POLAD US Army helicopter crew and passengers released from

Soviet Zone July 19 through arrangements made by American and East German Red

Cross societies. In this connection you may circulate, as unclassified, ~~text~~ both text

agreement contained Berlin's 74 rptd Paris 9 and ~~following~~ oral statement made

by Department press officer after release:

BEGIN STATEMENT (unessential words omitted):

~~REF~~ We are very pleased nine crew members and passengers of US Army helicopter which landed in East Germany June 7 have been returned to US control. In

accordance with agreements worked out in Berlin June 17 between Director of Operations, European Area, of American National Red Cross, Mr. Robert S. Wilson

and President of East German Red Cross, Dr. Werner Ludwig, nine men were turned

over to representatives of American Red Cross by representatives of East German

Red Cross between noon and 1 p.m. on July 19 at Heinersgruen on border between

Flauen and Hof. As press is already aware, American and East German Red Cross

organizations

RM/R

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7-21-58

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organizations had been in contact with one another during past week or two in connection with transmittal of mail to and from nine men and sending of comfort packages to men. This humanitarian co-operation led to discussion of arrangements for men's release and eventually to completion of such arrangements. ~~Agreed~~ **END STATEMENT.**

RPT not

You may add we are satisfied above-mentioned arrangements do not/in any way connote or imply any recognition or acceptance of GDR. In conclusion you may state we considering best means re-emphasizing Soviet responsibility in matter and as next ~~step~~ ^{step} we may address new demand to Soviets for return of helicopter.

Pulley
(BHV)

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